

Application No.: 09/660,186  
Amendment Dated September 15, 2004  
Reply to Decision On Appeal dated July 15, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.298.00-US

**REMARKS**

The Board of Patent Appeals and Examiner are thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The Decision On Appeal dated July 15, 2004 has been received and its content carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claims 7 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and claims 2, 9 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-6 and 9-20 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested based upon the above amendments are requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and pass this application to issue. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: September 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Valerie P. Hayes  
Valerie P. Hayes

Registration No.: 53,005  
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP  
1900 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 496-7500  
Attorneys for Applicant